



coombefield veterinary hospital

Newsletter June 2011



SPECIAL JUNE OFFERS

Throughout June we are offering a reduction on the cost of Mircochip. Phone now to book an appointment and have your animal microchipped for only £10.99!!!



Frontline Combo is also on special offer throughout June. If you buy a pack of 3 pipettes you will receive an additional pipette for free.

Noise Phobia

If your dog is afraid of sudden noises then life can be miserable for both of you. Summer thunderstorms can become a major trauma and unless you live in a remote part of the country there is almost no way of avoiding fireworks. These loud sounds can turn your pet into a nervous wreck. There are some simple tips to make the whole experience more bearable for you both, but to find a solution to the problem you may need to seek expert help.

How do I cope in the short-term?

For the immediate period around likely exposure to fireworks, thunder or other noises that frighten him, try to keep your dog in the house. Many dogs will try to escape from the noise by running away and the last thing you want is a panic-stricken dog out on the streets. Keep your dog in a bright room with the curtains drawn and provide plenty of background noise to try and mask the external sounds. Noisy music or the television usually provides relatively good cover.

Stay with your dog and try to ignore the noises outside. Act as you would do normally and if possible try to distract your pet by playing a game. If your pet has a friend who is not scared of noise invite that dog over for the evening and play boisterous games with him and try to encourage your own dog to join in. For some dogs with a severe phobia the only solution is a short course of sedatives or calming drugs at the time the noise is likely to be worst. These drugs must be given before your dog becomes upset otherwise they can sometimes make the problem worse. Always discuss the issues with the veterinary staff and only use treatment under their guidance. Some of the products available at Coombefield Veterinary Hospital include DAP and Feliway diffusers, KalmAid and Zylkene. These all work differently so it is important to speak to a member of staff to find the product right for your pet.

How should I handle the problem?

Never punish your pet for their behaviour when they are afraid. They will only learn to associate the punishment with the noise and become even more disturbed. Try not to make a big fuss of your pet when they appear nervous. Act normally and praise them if they do the same. If you have any other questions on noise phobia please visit our website www.coombefieldvets.co.uk or phone the hospital on 01297 630500 to speak to one of our nurses.

Paws for thought

We would like to welcome Mandy and Jane to the nursing team.

